

REMARKS

The Official Action is a restriction requirement in which it is urged that there are two separate and distinct inventions claimed in this application. The Group I invention is drawn to an electron tube and includes claims 1-17. The Group II invention is drawn to a method of manufacturing an electron tube and includes claims 8-22.

Applicants provisionally elect the Group I invention including claims 1 to 17, drawn to an electron tube for further prosecution on merits. This election is made with traverse. Further, applicants retain all rights to filing a divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter.

Applicants have added new claims 23 and 24 to the application in order to define the claimed subject matter more clearly, without adding new matter and in full compliance with the statutory requirements.

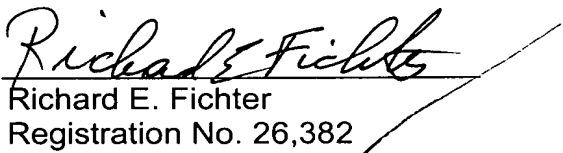
The Examiner asserted in the Official Action that this application must be restricted to Group I or II under 35 U.S.C. 121. However, the product and the method claims 23 and 24 have been newly added in the form of dependent claims by reciting the method of claim 18 of Group II and the product of claim 1 of Group I, respectively. These are linking claims linking the inventions so that they are examinable together. Therefore, it is believed that claims 23 and 24 should be examined together with the claims of the Group I invention.

It is also believed that claims 23 and 24 are linking claims of claims 1 and 18 and thus form one invention for examination on the merits.

Accordingly, Applicants most respectfully submit that the invention of the Group I and Group II be included in one application and be examined by the Examiner for an expedited and efficient prosecution proceeding and for a consistent examination.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants most respectfully request that the Restriction Requirement be withdrawn upon reconsideration.

Respectfully submitted,
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REF:kdd
A01.wpd

March 18, 2003